

Note- The minutes of this Committee are not official until the next EDC meeting, typically the following month. Thank you.

**Hopkinton, NH Economic Development Committee
Minutes of the February 18, 2009 Meeting**

Chairperson, Glen Ohlund called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Committee members present were Sue Leadbeater, Mark Bates, John Herrick, Glen Ohlund, Judy Hampe and Robert Gerseny.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerseny and seconded by Mrs. Hampe to table the approval of the January 21, 2009 minutes until the next regular meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

This was a well publicized meeting, the intent of which was to provide an opportunity to provide information to the public and to solicit feedback from the public regarding the Committee's proposal to adopt Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentives per RSA 79- E.

Mr. Ohlund opened the discussion of RSA 79-E.

- Mr. Ohlund and Mr. Stephen A. Heavener, Executive Director, CRDC identified the appropriate areas on the zoning maps that would be qualified for property owners to apply for the proposed tax incentives.
- Mr. Ohlund described the presentation that he planned to prepare for the Town Meeting: a short power point presentation.
- Advantages of the proposal include but are not limited to: persons who might consider purchasing public buildings that might be put up for sale, upgrades or rehabilitation of rental apartments, upgrades to safety concerns, and efficiency improvements.
- It was suggested that real case examples might be solicited for presentation at the Town Meeting: Marklin Candles and the Cracker Barrel.
- Mrs. Hampe noted that there was essentially no "downside" to this proposal as it merely gives the town a tool to use to enable property owners to improve the economic viability of their property but that each case is reviewed in public by the Selectman and therefore marginal projects ostensibly would not be given favorable treatment thereby protecting tax receipts.

A general discussion of the real estate markets ensued. Mrs. Hampe reported that exactly 1 residence sale had closed in Hopkinton since 12-31-08. She opined that it was reasonable to assume that real estate had declined between 15-20% over the last year.

Mr. Ohlund reported the Martin Marklin had offered to provide the Committee with a tour of his manufacturing facility in March.

Mr. Herrick reported that he had contacted Wayne Patenaude who confirmed that he had acquired the railroad tracks in the industrial zone on Burnham Intervale Road from the Concord & Claremont Railroad many years ago. Mr. Patenaude seemed agreeable to cooperating with the Committees plans for the industrial zone.

A motion was made by Sue Leadbeater and seconded by Judy Hampe to adjourn at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Gerseny (for Cettie Connolly)